

LIST OF RECOMMENDED RESCUERS

"How could you call us 'good'? We were doing what had to be done."

-The rescuers of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon

Rescue in Denmark. Denmark was the only occupied country that actively resisted the Nazi regime's attempts to deport its Jewish citizens. On September 28, 1943, Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz, a German diplomat, secretly informed the Danish resistance that the Nazis were planning to deport the Danish Jews. The Danes responded quickly, organizing a nationwide effort to smuggle the Jews by sea to neutral Sweden. Warned of the German plans, Jews began to leave Copenhagen, where most of the almost 8,000 Jews in Denmark lived, and other cities, by train, car, and on foot. With the help of the Danish people, they found hiding places in homes, hospitals, and churches. Within a two-week period fishermen helped ferry some 7,200 Danish Jews and 680 non-Jewish family members to safety across the narrow body of water separating Denmark from Sweden.

Walter Süskind (29 October 1906 - 28 February 1945) was a German Jew of Dutch parents who helped about 600 Jewish children escape the Holocaust. He was a member of the Dutch Jewish council (Dutch: Joodsche Raad) during the Second World War.

Miep Gies (February 15, 1909 – January 11, 2010) was one of the Dutch citizens who hid Anne Frank, her family and four other Jews from the Nazis in an annex above Anne's father's business premises during World War II.

Cornelia "Corrie" ten Boom (Amsterdam, The Netherlands April 15, 1892 – Orange, California, April 15, 1983) was a Dutch Christian, who with her father and other family members helped many Jews escape the Nazi Holocaust during World War II. Her family was arrested due to an informant in 1944, and her father died 10 days later at Scheveningen prison. A sister, brother and nephew were released, but ten Boom and her sister Betsie were sent to Ravensbruck concentration camp, where Betsie died. Ten Boom wrote many books and spoke frequently in the post-war years about her experiences. She also aided Holocaust survivors in her native Holland. Her autobiography, *The Hiding Place* (1971) was later adapted as a film of the same name in 1973 and starred Jeannette Clift as ten Boom.

Frederik Jacques "Frits" Philips (April 16, 1905 – December 5, 2005) was the fourth chairman of the board of directors of the Dutch electronics company Philips, which his uncle and father founded. For his actions in saving 382 Jews during the Nazi Occupation of the Netherlands in World War II, he was recognized in 1996 by Yad Vashem as a Righteous Among the Nations.

Jan Żabiński (8 April 1897, Warsaw - 26 July 1974, Warsaw) was a Polish zoologist and zootechnician, recognized by the State of Israel to be one of the Righteous Among the Nations. He was director of the Warsaw Zoo before the outbreak of World War II and additionally superintendent of the city's public parks during the Nazi occupation. He his wife Antonina and their son Ryszard used their personal villa and the zoo itself to shelter hundreds of displaced Jews. Additionally he fought during the Warsaw Uprising, was subsequently injured and became a prisoner of war. Żabiński also authored approximately 60 popular science books.

[Ferdynand Marek Arczyński](#) (born December 8, 1900 in Kraków – died 1979 in Warsaw) cryptonym "Marek," or "Lukowski", was one of the founding members of Żegota (Council for Aid to Jews), an underground organization in German-occupied Poland from 1942 to 1945. Żegota's express purpose was to aid the country's Jews and find places of safety for them. Poland was the only country in occupied Europe with such an organization during World War II.

[Matylda Getter](#) (1870–1968) was a Polish Catholic nun, mother provincial of CSFFM (lat.Congregatio Sororum Franciscalum Familiae Mariae) - Franciscan Sisters of the Family of Mary in Warsaw and social worker in pre war Poland. In German-occupied Warsaw during World War II she cooperated with the famous Irena Sendler and the Żegota resistance organization in saving the lives of hundreds of Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto. She was recognized as one of Polish Righteous among the Nations by Yad Vashem organisation. for her rescue activities.

[The inhabitants of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon](#), France (population 5,000) and the villages on the surrounding plateau (population 24,000) provided refuge for an estimated 5,000 people from December 1940 to September 1944. This number included an estimated 3,000–3,500 Jews who were fleeing from the Vichy authorities and the Germans. In 1990, the State of Israel recognized all of the inhabitants of Le Chambon and those of nearby villages collectively as “Righteous Among the Nations.” In addition, as of December 2007, the Israelis have awarded 40 individuals from Le Chambon and its environs the designation of “Righteous.” French President Jacques Chirac officially recognized the heroism of the village during a visit there on July 8, 2004. In January 2007, the French government honored the inhabitants of Le Chambon at a ceremony in the Pantheon in Paris. The village of Le Chambon and its neighboring villages offer an exceptional example of a collective rescue effort during the Holocaust.

[André Trocmé](#) (April 7, 1901 – June 5, 1971) and his wife Magda (née Grilli di Cortona, November 2, 1901, Florence, Italy – October 10, 1996) are a couple of French Righteous Among the Nations. For 15 years, André served as a pastor in the French town of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon on the Plateau Vivarais-Lignon in south-central France. He had been sent to this rather remote parish because of his pacifist positions which were not well received by the French Protestant Church. In his preaching he spoke out against discrimination as the Nazis were gaining power in neighboring Germany and urged his Protestant Huguenot congregation to hide Jewish refugees from the Holocaust of the Second World War.

[Irena Sendler](#) (née Krzyżanowska, AKA in Poland Irena Sendlerowa, *Nom de guerre* Jolanta; 15 February 1910 – 12 May 2008) was a Polish Catholic social worker who served in the Polish Underground and the Żegota resistance organization in German-occupied Warsaw during World War II. Assisted by some two dozen other Żegota members, Sendler smuggled 2,500 Jewish children out of the Warsaw Ghetto and then provided them with false identity documents and with housing outside the Ghetto, thereby saving those children from being killed in the Holocaust.

[Giorgio Perlasca](#) (Como January 31, 1910 – August 15, 1992) was an Italian who posed as the Spanish consul-general to Hungary in the winter of 1944, and saved thousands of Jews from Nazi Germany and the Holocaust. See also [Ángel Sanz Briz](#).

[Henryk Ślawik](#), born 16 July 1894 in Szeroka (now a part of Jastrzębie-Zdrój, then in the Prussian zone of partitioned Poland), was executed by Nazi Germans in Mauthausen-Gusen concentration camp on 26 August 1944. Ślawik was a Polish politician in the interwar period, social worker, activist, and diplomat, who during World War II helped save over 5,000 Polish as well as Hungarian Jews in Budapest by giving them false Polish passports with Catholic designation.

[Princess Alice of Battenberg](#), later Princess Andrew of Greece and Denmark (Victoria Alice Elizabeth Julia Marie; 25 February 1885 – 5 December 1969), was the mother of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and mother-in-law of Queen Elizabeth II. She stayed in Athens during the Second World War, sheltering Jewish refugees, for which she is recognized as "Righteous Among the Nations" at Yad Vashem.

[Luis Martins de Souza Dantas](#) (Rio de Janeiro, 1876 - Paris, 1954) was a Brazilian diplomat who was awarded the Righteous Among The Nations by the Israeli Supreme Court in June 2003 for his participation during the Holocaust in helping Jews in France escape. It is estimated he saved 800 people, 425 confirmed to be Jewish. His actions were not limited to saving Jews but other people considered undesirables according to Nazism, such as communists and homosexuals.

[Marie Taquet-Martens and Emile Taquet](#) were a husband and wife team who saved Jewish children from the Holocaust. They ran a residence for children in Belgium, and hid significant numbers of Jewish children among the general population of the school

[Aristides de Sousa Mendes do Amaral e Abranches](#), GCC, OL (July 19, 1885 – April 3, 1954;) was a Portuguese diplomat. He ignored and defied the orders of his own government for the safety of war refugees fleeing from invading German military forces in the early years of World War II. Between June 16 and June 23, 1940, he frantically issued Portuguese visas free of charge, to over 30,000 refugees seeking to escape the Nazi terror, 12,000 of whom were Jews.

[Dimitar Peshev](#) (Bulgarian: Димитър Пешев) (25 June 1894 - 25 February 1973) was the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Bulgaria and Minister of Justice during World War II. He rebelled against the pro-Nazi cabinet and prevented the Deportation of Bulgaria's 48,000 Jews.

[Chiune Sugihara](#) (杉原 千畝 *Sugihara Chiune*, 1 January 1900 – 31 July 1986) was a Japanese diplomat who served as Vice-Consul for the Japanese Empire in Lithuania. During World War II, he helped several thousand Jews leave the country by issuing transit visas to Jewish refugees so that they could travel to Japan. Most of the Jews who escaped were refugees from German-occupied Poland and residents of Lithuania. Sugihara wrote travel visas that facilitated the escape of more than 6,000 Jewish refugees to Japanese territory, risking his career and his family's lives. Sugihara had told the refugees to call him "Sempo", the Chinese reading of the characters in his first name, discovering it was much easier for Western people to pronounce. In 1985, Israel honored him as Righteous Among the Nations for his actions.

[Raoul Wallenberg](#) (August 4, 1912 – July 17, 1947?) was a Swedish architect, businessman, diplomat, and humanitarian. He is widely celebrated for his successful efforts to rescue tens of thousands to about one hundred thousand Jews in Nazi-occupied Hungary during the Holocaust from Hungarian Fascists and the Nazis during the later stages of World War II. While serving as Sweden's special envoy in Budapest between July and December 1944,

Wallenberg issued protective passports and sheltered Jews in buildings designated as Swedish territory saving tens of thousands of lives.

[Folke Bernadotte](#), Count of Wisborg (in Swedish: *Greve af Wisborg*; 2 January 1895 – 17 September 1948) was a Swedish diplomat and nobleman noted for his negotiation of the release of about 31,000 prisoners from German concentration camps during World War II, including 450 Danish Jews from Theresienstadt released on 14 April 1945. See also White Buses rescue mission.

[White Buses Rescue Mission](#) refers to a program undertaken by the Swedish Red Cross and the Danish government in the spring of 1945 to rescue concentration camp inmates in areas under Nazi control and transport them to Sweden, a neutral country. Although the program was initially targeted at saving citizens of Scandinavian countries, it rapidly expanded to include citizens of other countries. All told, the program removed 15,345 prisoners from mortal peril in concentration camps; of these 7,795 were Scandinavian and 7,550 were non-Scandinavian (Polish, French, etc.) In particular, 423 Danish Jews were saved from the Theresienstadt concentration camp inside German occupied territory of Czechoslovakia, contributing significantly to the fact that the casualties among Danish Jews during the Holocaust were among the lowest of the occupied countries of Europe. The term "white buses" originates from the buses having been painted white with red crosses to avoid confusion with military vehicles. Inspired by this program, the Norwegian White Buses Foundation organises excursions to Sachsenhausen and the sites of other concentration camps for school classes, accompanied by first-hand witnesses and survivors.

[Giovanni Palatucci](#) (May 31, 1909 – February 10, 1945) was an Italian police official who saved thousands of Jews from being deported to Nazi extermination camps.

[Hugh O'Flaherty, CBE](#) (28 February 1898 – 30 October 1963) was an Irish Roman Catholic priest and senior official of the Roman Curia. During World War II, he was responsible for saving 6,500 Allied soldiers and Jews. Due to his ability to evade the traps set by the German Gestapo and Sicherheitsdienst, Monsignor O'Flaherty earned the nickname "the Scarlet Pimpernel of the Vatican".

[Hiram "Harry" Bingham IV](#) (July 17, 1903 – January 12, 1988) was an American diplomat. He served as a Vice-Consul in Marseille, France, during World War II, and helped over 2,500 Jews to flee from France as Nazi forces advanced.

[José Arturo Castellanos Contreras](#) (San Vicente, El Salvador, December 23, 1893 – San Salvador, June 18, 1977) was a Salvadoran army colonel and diplomat who, while working as El Salvador's Consul General for Geneva during World War II, and in conjunction with a Jewish-Hungarian businessman named György Mandl, helped save up to 40,000 Jews and Central Europeans from Nazi persecution by providing them with false papers of Salvadoran nationality.

[İsmail Necdet Kent](#) (1911 – September 20, 2002) was a Turkish diplomat who risked his life to save Jews during World War II. While vice consul-general in Marseilles, France between 1941 and 1944, he gave Turkish citizenship to dozens of Turkish Jews living in France who did not have proper identity papers, to save them from deportation to the Nazi gas chambers. One of his sons is Muhtar Kent, president of The Coca Cola Company since July 2008.

[Gilberto Bosques Saldívar](#) (b. Chiautla, Puebla, 20 July 1892 – 4 July 1995) was a Mexican career diplomat and before that a combatant in the Mexican Revolution and a leftist legislator. As a consul in Nazi-occupied France, Bosques took initiative to rescue tens of thousands of Jews and Spanish Republican exiles from being deported to Nazi Germany or Spain, but his heroism remained unknown to the world at large for some sixty years, until several years after his death at the age of 102 (not 103, as sometimes reported). Bosques has been called the "Mexican Schindler" in allusion to Oskar Schindler.

[Eduardo Propper de Callejón](#) (1895-1972) was a Spanish diplomat who is mainly remembered for having facilitated the escape of thousands of Jews from occupied France during the World War II between 1940 and 1944. He stamped and signed passports almost non-stop for four days in 1940 to let Jewish refugees escape to Spain and Portugal. He was the father-in-law of The Honourable Raymond Bonham Carter and the maternal grandfather of British actress Helena Bonham Carter.

[Sir Nicholas George Winton](#), MBE (born 19 May 1909) is a British humanitarian who organised the rescue of 669 mostly Jewish children from German-occupied Czechoslovakia on the eve of the Second World War in an operation later known as the Czech Kindertransport. Winton found homes for them and arranged for their safe passage to Britain. The UK press has dubbed him the "British Schindler".

[Khaled Abdul-Wahab](#) (1911–1997) administrator of Mahdia, Tunisia, under German occupation; first Arab nominated for "Righteous Among the Nations"

[Gustav Schröder](#) (September 27, 1885 - 1959) was a sea captain, who is best known for attempting to save 937 German Jews, who were passengers on his ship, the MS *St. Louis*, from the Nazis in 1939.